

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 6, 2003

VOUCHER CARDS AVAILABLE FOR RESIDENTS AFFECTED BY FIRES

Cards Will Assist Residents to Pick Up Donated Supplies at Local Stores, Donation Centers

The San Diego County Firestorm Recovery Team is offering voucher cards to residents who have suffered losses in the recent wildfires.

The cards were created to verify those who are firestorm victims. County residents can use these cards to show that they have applied for firestorm assistance at one of the Local Assistance Centers (LAC).

"Several private companies asked us to provide this sort of identification so that valuable donated resources are given to fill legitimate needs," said Chandra Wallar, director, San Diego County Firestorm Recovery Team.

The cards, which were being created as the three County LAC's were being established, are being mailed to those who have already visited a County LAC and will be available at LAC's for those who have yet to come for assistance.

The Postal Service assures all residents of San Diego County who lost homes or whose mailboxes are no longer standing that their mail will be available for pick up at their local postal location, said U.S. Postal Service spokesman Mike Cannone.

The cards are now being mailed and they should be in residents' mail by Nov. 6 or 7. The Local Assistance Centers are in operation in Alpine, Ramona and Valley Center. For more information, please call the County Recovery Hotline at (866) 402-6044.

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